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WORKING PAPER

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IEG/OD-27/70
27 January 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: 23 Jan 70 Meeting of NRO Color Committee

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1. The 23 January 1970 meeting of the NRO Color Committee, chaired by [] was extremely productive and worthy of special notice.

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2. [] gave a briefing on a color separation technique which he and his associates have developed. This is a method of separating the green record from SO-242 film, because this layer of the film has the highest spacial resolution. The result is a 3rd generation B&W print which compares favorably in resolution with the best of 3404 B&W film []. This technique can only be used in enlargements of specific targets at present, but [] is working on a method of printing in contact. I felt that this breakthrough was so important that I borrowed [] slides and presented the briefing to the IEG branch chiefs that afternoon.

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3. [] then presented information on the new free-radical film which has resolutions up to 1000 lines/m.m.

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4. [] gave a detailed account of his participation in the narcotics project which the Department of Justice is interested in carrying on through aerial reconnaissance. [] said that he has been told that SO-242 color film is being strongly considered for this project because of its high resolution and color fidelity. He also said that opium poppies and marijuana are to be planted at Ft. Huachuca for ground truth purposes. I objected strongly to these proposals, pointing out that our experience shows that there is no requirement for either high resolution or color film in crop surveys. The survey of the crops of Cuba which we conducted on color and B&W film proved this. The first priority requirement for crop studies is ground truth on the cropping practices of the locality in which the crops are grown, so that repetitive coverage will permit the separation of these crops by these cropping practices. Then almost any reconnaissance system, whether it be high or low, color, B&W, or IR, can be used. The ground truth at Ft. Huachuca would be almost useless, except for spectral analysis, because the all-important local farm practices and comparisons with other local crops would be lacking.

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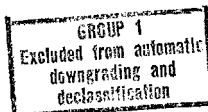
[]
Chairman, NPIC Color Coordinating Committee

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